

FRESNO, CA - Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced today that the Head Start Program operated by the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission will receive nearly \$14 million from the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

“It is important to give our children proper education and healthcare, as well as provide parents with adequate information and services that they need to build a better life for their families,” Congressman Costa said. “The Head Start Program is one of the most successful federal programs that has ever been created,” Congressman Costa added.

Under the terms of the grant the Head Start Program will receive a total of \$13,994,135, which will allow it to continue to provide no-cost comprehensive preschool programs that assist the educational needs of disadvantaged children and strengthen their emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs in nurturing and stimulating environments. The program also provides employment opportunities for local community members, as well as encouraging local educational and health organizations to assist low-income families with their needs.

The Head Start Program currently has over 3,019 funded enrollment slots and 37 centers including churches, schools and community centers. It has been one of the most successful federal programs spearheaded by the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission.

“This grant will allow the local Head Start Program to continue to provide children an opportunity to cultivate their skills, while giving low income families a chance to further their lives,” Costa concluded.

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